

REMARKS

Claims 22, 23, 26-30, 33-39, and 42-52 are pending in the application. In the Advisory Action mailed November 25, 2005, the Examiner indicated that newly proposed or amended claims 27, 28, 34, 35, 38-39, 42-26, and 51 would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claims.

Applicants express appreciation to the Examiner for acknowledging the presence of allowable subject matter. Applicants hereby request to amend claims and cancel claims in order to expedite issuance of the subject matter acknowledged as being allowable by the Examiner, and without prejudice to the possible filing of subsequent divisional or continuation applications.

Specifically, the Examiner's Advisory Action indicated that claims 27 and 28 recite allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended claim 22 to recite the allowable subject matter contained within claims 27 and 28, namely, "wherein the wall member includes at least one of a flexible aerial refueling hose and a refueling boom." Accordingly, claim 22 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 23 and 26 depend from claim 22 and are also in condition for allowance.

Similarly, the Examiner's Advisory Action indicated that claims 34 and 35 recite allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended claim 29 to recite the allowable subject matter contained within claims 34 and 35, namely, "wherein the conduit includes at least one of a flexible aerial refueling hose and a refueling boom." Accordingly, claim 29 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 30, 33, 36 and 37 depend from claim 29 and are also in condition for allowance.

The Examiner's Advisory Action further indicated that claims 38-39 and 42-46 are presently in condition for allowance.

Finally, the Examiner's Advisory Action indicated that claim 51 recites allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended claim 47 to recite the allowable subject matter contained within claim 51, namely, "wherein providing a conduit operatively coupled to a tank includes

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providing a conduit operatively coupled to a refueling tank of a tanker aircraft." Accordingly, claim 47 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 48 and 52 depend from claim 47 and are also in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request entry of the above-proposed amendments, and respectfully submit that claims 22, 23, 26, 29, 30, 33, 36-39, 42-47, and 52 are now in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in the Advisory Action mailed on November 25, 2005. If there are any remaining matters that may be handled by telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned at his convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

BLACK LOWE & GRAHAM^{PLLC}



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MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this communication is being transmitted via facsimile under 37 C.F.R. § 1.08 on the date indicated below to no. 1-571-273-8300.

December 14, 2005
Date of Deposit

Wendy Saxby
Wendy Saxby

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